

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A support for use in a backlight assembly of a liquid crystal display panel, the support comprising:
 - a first member having a body and a groove formed in the body for holding a lamp, the first member attaching the lamp to a lamp housing of the backlight assembly;
 - a second member having an elongated body for supporting a diffuser plate of the backlight assembly when it attempts to sag or distort;
 - wherein the second member extends from the first member.
2. The support according to claim 1, wherein the body of the first member includes a locking member depending therefrom for attaching the first member to the lamp housing of the backlight assembly.
3. The support according to claim 1, wherein the body of the second member comprises a frusto-conical shape.
4. The support according to claim 3, wherein the body of the second member includes a groove.
5. The support according to claim 4, wherein the groove of the body of the second member provides clearance for the lamp.
6. The support according to claim 4, wherein the groove of the body of the second member aids in retaining the lamp in the groove of the body of the first member.

7. The support according to claim 1, wherein the body of the second member includes a groove.
8. The support according to claim 7, wherein the groove of the body of the second member provides clearance for the lamp.
9. The support according to claim 7, wherein the groove of the body of the second member aids in retaining the lamp in the groove of the body of the first member.
10. The support according to claim 1, wherein the body of the first member includes a reflective surface.
11. The support according to claim 1, wherein the body of the second member is transparent.
12. The support according to claim 1, wherein the body of the second member includes a locking member.
13. The support according to claim 12, wherein the body of the first member includes a recess for the locking member.
14. The support according to claim 13, wherein the locking member includes a locking shoulder that extends through an aperture at a bottom of the recess.

15. The support according to claim 1, further comprising a ring-shape member disposed about a section of the lamp for providing cushioning between the lamp and the first member.

16. The support according to claim 1, wherein the groove of the body of the first member has a cross-sectional profile which is slightly greater than a semi-circle.

17. The support according to claim 16, wherein the lamp snap-fits into the groove of the body of the first member.

18. The support according to claim 1, wherein the lamp snap-fits into the groove of the body of the first member.

19. A support for use in a backlight assembly of a liquid crystal display panel, the support comprising:

a first member having a body and a groove formed in the body for holding a lamp of the backlight assembly; and

a ring-shape member disposed about a section of the lamp for providing cushioning between the lamp and the first member.

20. A backlight assembly for a liquid crystal display panel, the backlight assembly comprising:

a lamp housing;

a lamp;

a diffuser plate;

a support comprising

a first member having a body and a groove formed in the body for holding the lamp, the first member attaching the lamp to the lamp housing;

a second member having an elongated body for supporting the diffuser plate when it attempts to sag or distort, the second member extending from the first member.

21. The backlight assembly according to claim 20, wherein the body of the first member includes a locking member depending therefrom for attaching the first member to the lamp housing.

22. The backlight assembly according to claim 20, wherein the body of the second member comprises a frusto-conical shape.

23. The backlight assembly according to claim 22, wherein the body of the second member includes a groove.

24. The backlight assembly according to claim 23, wherein the groove of the body of the second member provides clearance for the lamp.

25. The backlight assembly according to claim 23, wherein the groove of the body of the second member aids in retaining the lamp in the groove of the body of the first member.

26. The backlight assembly according to claim 20, wherein the body of the second member includes a groove.

27. The backlight assembly according to claim 26, wherein the groove of the body of the second member provides clearance for the lamp.

28. The backlight assembly according to claim 26, wherein the groove of the body of the second member aids in retaining the lamp in the groove of the body of the first member.

29. The backlight assembly according to claim 20, wherein the body of the first member includes a reflective surface.

30. The backlight assembly according to claim 20, wherein the body of the second member is transparent.

31. The backlight assembly according to claim 20, wherein the body of the second member includes a locking member.

32. The backlight assembly according to claim 31, wherein the body of the first member includes a recess for the locking member.

33. The backlight assembly according to claim 32, wherein the locking member includes a locking shoulder that extends through an aperture at a bottom of the recess.

34. The backlight assembly according to claim 20, further comprising a ring-shape member disposed about a section of the lamp for providing cushioning between the lamp and the first member.
35. The backlight assembly according to claim 20, wherein the groove of the body of the first member has a cross-sectional profile which is slightly greater than a semi-circle.
36. The backlight assembly according to claim 35, wherein the lamp snap-fits into the groove of the body of the first member.
37. The backlight assembly according to claim 20, wherein the lamp snap-fits into the groove of the body of the first member.
38. A backlight assembly for a liquid crystal display panel, the backlight assembly comprising:
- a lamp housing;
 - a lamp;
 - a diffuser plate;
 - a support comprising:
 - a first member having a body and a groove formed in the body for holding the lamp, the first member attaching the lamp to the lamp housing;
 - a ring-shape member disposed about a section of the lamp for providing cushioning between the lamp and the first member.